

NEWS RELEASE

Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POLICE ARREST THREE SUSPECTS FOR A KIDNAP / ROBBERY SERIES

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Robbery Unit detectives, working closely with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office, have arrested Hassan NUR (20), Mohamud MOHAMED (23), and Mohamed MOHAMED (25), in connection with a series of kidnap robberies that occurred in the Gaslamp Quarter between August and December, 2011. A fourth suspect is still outstanding. He is described as a dark skinned male, 25-30 years old, 6'3", weighing 250 pounds with black hair and dark eyes.

In this series, dubbed the "Sobriety Check Kidnap Series", the suspects would cruise the Gaslamp Quarter in the late night and early morning hours looking for potential victims. They preyed on intoxicated males found walking down the street. On several occasions, they identified themselves as police officers and told the victims they were "taking them in" for being intoxicated. The suspects would then place the victims in the suspects' vehicle and drive them around the downtown area, in some cases for more than an hour. The suspects would force the victims to give up their cell phones and wallets, taking cash, credit cards and ATM cards. After forcing the victims to give up their ATM access numbers, the suspects would drop the victims off at random locations.

Detectives have identified eight cases the suspects are believed to be responsible for. Investigators also believe there are additional victims who have not reported their crimes. The District Attorney's Office and the San Diego Police Robbery Unit are requesting anyone who may have been victimized by these individuals or has information about these cases, including the identity or whereabouts of the outstanding suspect, to contact the San Diego Police Department Robbery Unit at (619) 531-2299.

The three defendants in custody were arraigned in San Diego Superior Court yesterday on multiple felony charges of kidnapping. A readiness hearing is set for December 23, 2011 and a preliminary hearing is scheduled for January 5, 2012.